

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

Working Documents

1980 - 1981

13 MARCH 1980

DOCUMENT 1-19/80

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

tabled by Mr JOSSELIN, Mr GLINNE, Mr JAQUET,
Mr B. FRIEDRICH, Mr VAN MINNEN, Mr FERRI,
Mr SEEFELD, Mr SARRE, Mrs ROUDY, Mr GATTO,
Mr ARNDT, Mr ARFE, Mr LIZIN, Mr DELORS,
Mr ENRIGHT, Mr SCHWARTZENBERG, Mr J. MOREAU,
Mrs B. WEBER, Mr COLLA, Mr COHEN, Mrs FUILLET,
Mr ALBERS and Mr OEHLER,

on behalf of the Socialist Group

with request for urgent debate pursuant to
Rule 14 of the Rules of Procedure

on aid for regions afflicted by oil slicks.

The European Parliament,

- having regard to the new oil tanker accident that occurred off the coast of Brittany on 7 March 1980 and follows far too long a series of accidents in that area: Olympic Bravery, Gino, Bohlen, Amoco Cadiz,
 - noting that the vessel involved, the Tanio, was obsolescent, that its general condition was no doubt the reason for the accident and that the use of sub-standard vessels is a danger to human life and threatens to destroy the ecology of the coasts and to cause extremely serious economic and social damage to regions which derive a large part of their revenue from the sea and which owe much of their attraction to the marine environment
 - realizing that far fewer such disasters would occur if rigorous international standards governing shipbuilding, the maintenance of vessels and their training, qualifications and working conditions of their crews were in force and effectively implemented,
 - aware of the need for a European preventive policy, without which a coastal state cannot take unilateral measures to deny access to its ports, measures which would in any case be ineffective as they would lead to the appearance of ports of convenience,
 - having regard to the many proposals submitted by the European Parliament on the problems of safety at sea and the protection of the environment, in particular Mr PRESCOTT's report (Doc. 479/76), the debates following the Amoco Cadiz disaster (Docs. 369/77, 28/78 and 51/78) and the Council resolution of 26 June 1978 (OJ of 8 July 1978),
1. Requests the Commission to submit a report at an early date on the action taken on these various proposals;
 2. Calls on the Commission to propose to the Council that it should ratify all the IMCO conventions on shipbuilding, the maintenance of vessels and the qualifications, training and working conditions of the crews;
 3. Requests the Council to issue a Community directive denying access to European ports to vessels which do not comply with the standards thus laid down;
 4. Calls upon the Commission to draw up a system for monitoring the enforcement of these standards, recruiting and training qualified staff and establishing all the necessary technical facilities, under the authority of the European Community;
 5. Requests the Commission to report before 15 July 1980 to Parliament's appropriate committees, including the Committee on Budgets, on the progress made in establishing measures to ensure safe shipping and on their budgetary implications;
 6. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Council and Commission of the European Communities.

JUSTIFICATION

Urgent debate is necessary because of the repeated accidents involving oil tankers and in particular the recent disaster off the coast of Brittany.